

Bideford
Rural District Council

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Annual Report

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

SURVEYOR, ENGINEER AND SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year

1950

Bideford Rural District Council
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Annual Report

For the Year 1950

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. N. BOWRING BETTS, F.R.C.S.

Surveyor, Engineer and Sanitary Inspector :

Mr. L. J. DUNN, A.M.S.E., A.M.I.S.E., M.R.S.I., A.I.A.S.

Clerk :

Mrs. L. E. HAMMOND

Assistants :

Mr. A. ROWE.

Mr. J. W. WHITEFIELD.

Mr. M. NORTHCOMBE.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The chief occupations of the inhabitants of the District are directly or indirectly associated with agriculture. A great deal of work is brought about by the popularity of the district for visitors. Many hotels, boarding houses and farms specialise in seasonal catering.

STATISTICS

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|--------------|
| Area (Acres) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 53,570 |
| Population (Estimated) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,544 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,522 |
| Rateable Value (as at 31.3.51) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £19,838 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate (as at 31.3.51) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £80/17/5.012 |

1950

ANNUAL REPORT
Of the Medical Officer of Health for the
Bideford Rural District

Cleverdon House,
Bradworthy.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you my Report dealing with the Public Health
and general conditions of the district during the year 1950.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

N. BOWRING BETTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

| Births | 1950 |
|--|------|
| Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. | 15.4 |
| Birth Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales | 15.8 |
| Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births | 23.8 |

Deaths

| | |
|---|------|
| Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. | 7.9 |
| Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population | 9.9 |
| Death Rate per 1,000 for England and Wales | 11.6 |

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

| | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births) |
|------------------------------|--------|---|
| | 1950 | 1950 |
| Puerperal Sepsis | 0 | 0 |
| Other Puerperal Causes | 0 | 0 |
| | — | — |
| Total | 0 | 0 |
| | — | — |

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

| | 1950 |
|----------------------|------|
| Legitimate | 2 |
| Illegitimate | 0 |

Death Rate

| | 1950 |
|---|------|
| All Infants per 1,000 live births | 24.3 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | 24.7 |
| All Infants per 1,000 live births (England and Wales) | 29.8 |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | 9 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | 0 |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) | 0 |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years) | 0 |

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Hospitals

1. Tuberculosis

There are no hospitals for the reception of tuberculous patients in this District. Advanced cases are usually treated at Hawley Sanatorium, Barnstaple. Convalescent patients from this district are sometimes sent to the Devon County Council's large and well-equipped sanatorium at Hawkmoor, South Devon.

2. Isolation of Infectious Diseases.

Any cases of infectious diseases which cannot be isolated or properly cared for at home, are conveyed to the Bideford and District Joint Isolation Hospital, which comprises 30 beds, 4 cots and 8 observation cubicles.

During 1950, 7 cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital from the Bideford Rural District, 1 patient suffering from Scarlet Fever and 6 from Anterior Poliomyelitis.

3. Smallpox

The Smallpox Hospital of the Devon County Council provides treatment for any case of smallpox that may arise in this District.

4. General

The Bideford and District Hospital serves the District extremely well for General Medical and Surgical treatment. The Hospital contains about 51 beds. Hospital facilities are also available at the North Devon Infirmary, Barnstaple, and the Royal Devon and Exeter Hospital, Exeter.

District Nursing

There are six District Nurses, all qualified midwives, working in the District.

Laboratory Facilities

Bacteriological examinations are undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service at 7, Dix's Field, Exeter, the Director is Dr. Moore.

Chemical analyses are carried out by Public Analysts, Messrs. Tickle and Reynolds, of Queen Street, Exeter.

Disinfection of Infected Bedding and Clothing

By arrangement with the Bideford and District Joint Isolation Hospital Board, any infected bedding and clothing can be disinfected in the steam disinfecting apparatus at the Isolation Hospital.

Ambulance Facilities

There is a St. John Ambulance stationed at Bideford, which serves the Rural District. There is also a separate ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital, which is used for the conveyance of patients suffering from any of the notifiable infectious diseases.

Child Welfare Clinic.

There are Child Welfare Clinics held at Hartland and Bideford.

Venereal Diseases.

A Clinic for venereal disease is held at the North Devon Infirmary twice weekly.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

A Clinic is held twice a month at Barnstaple.

Birth Control Clinic.

A Clinic is held once a month at the North Devon Dispensary, Barnstaple.

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| <i>Diseases</i> | Notifications | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------------|
| | <i>Total number of cases notified</i> | <i>Cases admitted to hospital</i> | <i>Total deaths</i> |
| | 1950 | 1950 | 1950 |
| Scarlet Fever | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Diphtheria | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Puerperal Pyrexia | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Pneumonia | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Dysentery | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Erysipelas | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Anterior Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis | 6 | 6 | 1 |
| Measles | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Acute Encephalitis Lethargica | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cerebro Spinal Meningitis .. | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Diphtheria Immunisation

A high proportion of the Children under 15 years of age have availed themselves of the above scheme. Each school in the district has been visited by the School Medical Officer for this purpose.

TUBERCULOSIS

The number of cases of Tuberculosis remaining on the register was as follows :—

| | | | | | | 31st Dec. 1950 |
|--|---|---------|----|----|----|-------------------|
| (a) Pulmonary | | Males | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| | | Females | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| (b) Non-Pulmonary | | Males | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| | | Females | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Total Cases on the register, December 31st, 1950.. | | | | | | 23 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1949.. 21 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1948.. 24 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1947.. 22 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1946.. 21 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1945.. 16 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1944.. 21 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1943.. 23 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1942.. 18 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1941.. 17 |
| ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | ” | 1940.. 19 |

1. New Cases.

During the year 2 cases were notified in accordance with the regulations.

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--|---------|----|----|----|---|
| (a) Pulmonary | | Males | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| | | Females | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| (b) Non-Pulmonary | | Males | .. | .. | .. | 0 |
| | | Females | .. | .. | .. | 0 |
| Totals | | | | | | 2 |

The following are the notification for the preceding eight years :—

| | <i>Pulmonary</i> | <i>Non-Pulmonary</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|------------|------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| 1949 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 1948 | 0 | 4 | 4 |
| 1947 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 1946 | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| 1945 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| 1944 | 4 | 0 | 4 |
| 1943 | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| 1942 | 5 | 1 | 6 |

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW

| Causes of Death | 1950 | |
|---|------|----|
| | M. | F. |
| Tuberculosis, Respiratory | 0 | 0 |
| Tuberculosis, other | 0 | 0 |
| Syphilis | 0 | 0 |
| Diphtheria | 0 | 0 |
| Whooping Cough | 0 | 0 |
| Meningococcal Infections | 0 | 0 |
| Measles | 0 | 0 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis | 1 | 0 |
| Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases | 0 | 0 |
| Malignant Neoplasm Stomach | 1 | 3 |
| Malignant Neoplasm Lung, Bronchus | 0 | 1 |
| Malignant Neoplasm Breast | 0 | 0 |
| Malignant Neoplasm Uterus | 0 | 0 |
| Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasm... .. | 2 | 2 |
| Leukaemia, Aleukaemia | 0 | 0 |
| Diabetes | 0 | 0 |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System... .. | 3 | 4 |
| Coronary Disease, Angina | 0 | 2 |
| Hyoertension with Heart Disease | 0 | 0 |
| Other Heart Disease | 6 | 6 |
| Other Circulatory Disease | 3 | 0 |
| Influenza... .. | 0 | 0 |
| Pneumonia | 0 | 0 |
| Bronchitis | 1 | 1 |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System | 0 | 0 |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum | 0 | 0 |
| Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea | 0 | 0 |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis | 1 | 0 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate | 3 | 0 |
| Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion | 0 | 0 |
| Congenital Malformations | 0 | 1 |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 5 | 5 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 0 | 0 |
| All other accidents | 1 | 1 |
| Suicide | 0 | 0 |
| Homicide and Operations of War | 0 | 0 |
| All Causes | 27 | 26 |

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

N. BOWRING BETTS,

Medical Officer of Health.

1950

ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Surveyor, Engineer and Sanitary Inspector
for the Bideford Rural District

Council Offices,
Market Place,
Bideford.
July, 1951.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Bideford Rural District Council.**

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my first Annual Report to you relating to the work carried out by the department during the year under review.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking the Council for appointing me to this post and for the help which has been afforded to me by members of the Council, and other members of the staff.

As will be seen in greater detail in the Report, progress has been made during the past year in the spheres of Housing, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Schemes.

It is regretted however, that the position with regard to water supplies generally has not improved, and as yet this area has not benefited to any marked extent from the work which is being carried out by the North Devon Water Board.

Where details of topical interest have been discussed, they are brought up-to-date as far as possible.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. J. DUNN,

Surveyor, Engineer and Sanitary Inspector.

HOUSING

Post-War Housing Programme.

During the year under review four traditional type houses have been completed by the Council ; two at Church Park Estate, Alwington, and two at Narracombe, Littleham. Two houses were under construction at the end of the year on the Parkham site—these have since been completed, and tenders for two further houses were in the hands of the Ministry of Health for approval. The erection of these houses has now been commenced, together with two further houses at Littleham.

A number of sites in the district have been chosen for the erection of houses, but no progress has been made for various reasons ; fuller details of each site are given hereunder.

Alwington. A site for two houses was chosen at Dydon Cross, but was later abandoned when the Planning Authority would not approve same.

Buckland Brewer—Twitchen. The layout plans for two houses on this site have been approved by the Ministry of Local Government and Planning, but development cannot take place until such time as water from the well which has been dug has been proved in quality and quantity.

Hartland—Northgate. Plans have been drawn up and tenders requested for the erection of two 2-bedroomed houses and three 4-bedroomed houses on this site. There will remain eight houses to be erected to complete the new layout for that portion of land owned by the Council at the rear of the Airey type houses.

Monkleigh—Hilton Road. No further houses can be erected on this site until such time as the water main of the North Devon Water Board reaches Monkleigh, which it is hoped will be in 1951.

During the year, however, alterations to the existing drainage system has been decided and a Filter is being installed, which will deal with the drainage from the completed Estate of 17 houses, and abate a nuisance from the existing system.

Newton St. Petrock. Further water samples taken from the well on this proposed housing site were unsatisfactory. The Holy Well was gauged to test its yield, but it was found that during the Summer the supply of water from this source would be insufficient for the four proposed houses. Development now awaits the water main of the North Devon Water Board.

Parkham—Horns Cross. Planning approval under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947, has been granted for a site for 10 houses near the Cross Roads. It is proposed that only two houses shall be erected on this site until such time as the water mains are available to supply the fully developed site.

Welcombe. Further samples taken from the well on this site proved unsatisfactory.

The number of applications for houses outstanding for this Parish is so few that the provision of houses here is not so essential.

Woolsery. In October a further sample of water was taken from the well, but it proved unsatisfactory. The Council then made enquiries with regard to the provision of a rainwater supply for domestic purposes to enable houses to be built on this site, but it was decided after a full discussion that the development of this site be deferred until the North Devon Water Board's mains reach Woolsery.

General

It will be seen from the above resume that the main problem with regard to the Post War Housing Programme is again the lack of sufficient and satisfactory water supplies.

During the past Summer the well water supply for the Post War traditional type house was found to be inadequate generally, and in two instances water had to be carried to Estates.

At the time of writing the report there remains 16 Council Houses to be erected by this Authority. Owing to the fact that 20 houses were outstanding at September, 1950, no further allocation was received for the current year.

The following table gives the housing position at the end of the year with regard to Pre-War, War-Time and Post-War houses :—

Pre-War Houses.

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Abbotsham | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Alwington | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Buckland Brewer | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Clovelly | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Hartland | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Littleham | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Monkleigh | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Parkham | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| Woolsery | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| | | | | | | — |
| Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 26 |
| | | | | | | — |

War-Time Houses.

In 1944 the Council built four Houses :—

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|----|----|----|---|
| Natcott, Hartland | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Crosspark, Woolsery | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| | | | | | — |
| Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| | | | | | — |

Post-War Houses.

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Abbotsham | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| Alwington | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| Buckland Brewer | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| Bulkworthy | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Clovelly | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8 |
| East Putford | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Hartland | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 18 |
| Littleham | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Monkleigh | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| | | | | | — | |
| Total | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 64 |
| | | | | | — | |

Housing Act, 1949.

No applications for a grant under the Housing Act, 1949, were received during the year.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supplies.

As and from April 1st, the North Devon Water Board assumed responsibility for Public Water Supplies in this Rural District and took over the existing water supply undertakings and all Public Wells.

I regret to report, however, that the water supply position in this Rural District is still very unsatisfactory and the only villages in the area which are served by pipe water supplies are as follows :—

Abbotsham—Water obtained from the Northam U.D.C. Mains ; Reservoir at Melbury.

Buckland Brewer—Stand pipe supply only.

Lower Clovelly—Proved to be insufficient in quantity and unsatisfactory in quality.

Hartland (War Time emergency scheme only)—Only very limited supplies of water are available in the Summer.

During the year, however, the North Devon Water Board have commenced laying the water mains from the proposed 250,000 gallon service reservoir at Burford, Clovelly, to Clovelly and Hartland.

This supply will serve Higher Clovelly and augment the existing War Time emergency supply at Hartland. The Consulting Engineers for this scheme have recently been asked to investigate the possibility of augmenting the Lower Clovelly village water supply from this Burford supply, by means of a branch main from Wrinkleberry, Higher Clovelly, which would be controlled by a sluice valve.

A tender has been accepted by the Water Board for the installation of slow sand filters at the Lower Clovelly Water Works. This is consequent upon a series of samples of the water, taken over a period, which proved unsatisfactory in quality.

Samples of water taken from Buckland Brewer during the year proved in some instances to be unsatisfactory in quality, and as a result

the North Devon Water Board have arranged for chlorination of the water. All samples of water taken since chlorination was first carried out have proved satisfactory.

A spare submersible pump has been obtained by the Board and is kept at Buckland Brewer in case of any defect occurring in the one and only pump in use at the time the supply was taken over.

Farm Water Supplies.

At the request of the Devon Agricultural Executive Committee 18 proposed farm water supplies were investigated during the year.

In all these cases a test for the equivalent pH value of the water was made by this department and this service is extended to other private water supplies if the request is made. The majority of the supplies in this area are found to be of an acid character and the person proposing to instal the supply is recommended in these cases to use non-metallic pipes if possible.

Water Samples.

During the year 67 samples of water were taken for bacteriological analysis from all sources and where samples proved to be bad in the case of private wells, the consumers were informed that until another water supply could be brought into use, or the existing supply suitably protected, all water used for domestic purposes should be boiled or otherwise suitably treated.

Details of the samples taken and the results are given hereunder :—

| <i>Private Wells</i> | | <i>Council House Estates or Proposed Sites Water Supplies</i> | | <i>Public Supplies</i> | |
|----------------------|----------|---|----------|------------------------|----------|
| Satis. | Unsatis. | Satis. | Unsatis. | Satis. | Unsatis. |
| 6 | 33 | 7 | 19 | 0 | 2 |

Sewerage.

The undermentioned villages in the district are wholly or partially served by a sewerage scheme :—

Abbotsham
Clovelly
Horns Cross
Hartland
Woolsery.

The above-mentioned schemes are reasonably satisfactory with the exception of Woolsery which requires the installation of a new filter bed ; this work it is hoped will be carried out in the near future.

The villages of Parkham and Buckland Brewer have evolved a system of common drains which are most unsatisfactory and are the cause of a nuisance. The Council have, however, during the year under review, accepted a tender from Messrs. Richard Costain Ltd., in the sum of £9,988 for laying entirely new 6in. sewers and the provision of a new disposal works, which will serve the whole of the village of Buckland Brewer.

At the time of writing the report the scheme is well in hand, works having commenced in January, 1951, and the work will be completed well before the mains of the North Devon Water Board reach the village.

Following complaints during the summer, certain works were carried out to one of three common cesspits at Parkham to alleviate a nuisance existing therefrom and at the same time the Council gave instructions that this department should proceed with drawing up plans and a system for a proposed sewerage and sewage disposal scheme to serve the village and abate nuisances existing from the three common cesspits mentioned above.

All plans have now been drawn up and have been submitted to the Ministry of Local Government and Planning for approval and a grant under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act 1944.

At the time of writing the report the Department is making surveys and drawing up preliminary plans for a Sewerage Scheme for the village of Monkleigh, which village will soon be served with water from the North Devon Water Board's main, and where the existing individual drainage arrangements are unsatisfactory, and will prove even more so when water is more abundant.

During the year a new sea outfall and tidal tank has been constructed at Clovelly. This has replaced a very unsatisfactory and defective sea outfall on the beach.

The newly constructed tidal tank has a manually operated penstock and the sewage is released from the Tidal Tank on the ebb tide.

Some time ago the Council resolved that the undermentioned hamlets or villages be provided with a modern sewerage and sewage disposal scheme as and when the economical position allowed this, but in any event I am of the opinion that the matter should be treated as urgent where mains water supply will shortly become available.

Alwington
Fairy Cross
Ford
Bucks Mills
Higher Clovelly
Littleham
Saltrens
Stoke

For the remainder of the district the density of properties is such that no economical sewerage scheme could be evolved and individual disposal systems to the properties are in use.

A considerable number of properties in the district still have no modern sanitary conveniences and bucket closets are in use. Slowly but surely the sanitary conditions of the district are improving.

During the next few years, unless international relations worsen, there is no doubt that progress should be more speedy. The provision of a pipe water supply in the majority of the district is assured, and where the density of the houses is sufficient, main sewerage schemes must follow.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse Collection is carried out by contract with this Council as follows :—

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Abbotsham | Bi-monthly |
| Clovelly Village | Twice Weekly |
| Higher Clovelly | Monthly |
| Hartland Town | Weekly |
| Stoke | Monthly |

The following villages have no organised refuse collection, but near each individual village the Parish Council has in the past provided a dump to which residents in the respective villages can deposit their refuse :—

Monkleigh
Parkham
Woolsery
Horns Cross
Fairy Cross
Ford
Buckland Brewer

During the year the Council considered the question of instituting district collection of refuse and levying a district rate to cover the expense of same, but it was felt that the time was not convenient for this service to be brought into use. Recently, however, by resolution of the Council, refuse collection has become a general rate over the district, whereas any charges on this service were a Parish Rate.

The position now is that the whole of the district pays for refuse collection in five built-up areas, whilst at the same time, individual Parish Dumps are retained, which are very unsatisfactory.

At the time of this report going to the press, the position is that all Parish Councils have been asked to give their views as to the necessity or otherwise for a general Refuse Collection Scheme. As yet, all Parish Councils have not considered this question, but the majority of those which have considered the question, are of the opinion that a general Refuse Collection is desirable, on the lines laid down in a report given to the Council some time ago.

Smoke Abatement.

No nuisances relating to smoke have been reported to the department and as a consequence no action has been taken.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public or privately owned swimming baths or pools in the district.

Camping Sites.

During the Summer months inspections were made of the various Camping Sites in the district, which were used more or less regularly for a considerable period, and in many cases conditions relating to sanitary accommodation was found to be unsatisfactory.

The attention of the occupiers of the sites in question was drawn to this and by resolution of the Council, all the Camping Sites now used

for considerable periods during the year must be provided with at least two approved type closets ; facilities must be provided for the disposal and collection of refuse and the occupier of the field must ensure that a satisfactory water supply is available for use by persons using the site.

Rivers and Streams.

During the year the Devon Rivers Board has been set up as required under the Rivers Board Act, 1948, and responsibility for prevention of pollution of rivers and streams now rests with the Board.

With the provision of main sewerage schemes in a number of villages and hamlets in the district, pollution caused by individual and common cesspits will cease and so far the Board have proved very co-operative with this Authority with regard to the draining of effluent from property constructed sewage disposal works.

Offensive Trades

No offensive trades are being carried out in the district.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

The total number of inspections, revisits and interviews etc., made in connection with the work of the department during the year, was 1,552 made up as follows :—

| | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|--------------------|----|-------|
| Water Supplies | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 207 |
| Drainage and Sewerage | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 450 |
| Stables and Piggeries | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| Fried Fish Shops | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Tents, Vans and Sheds | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14 |
| Public Conveniences | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Refuse Collection | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12 |
| Refuse Disposal | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 13 |
| Rats and Mice | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6 |
| Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Water Samples | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 67 |
| Building Licensing | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 36 |
| Planning and New Building | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 113 |
| Council Housing—General | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 284 |
| Nuisances | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Number of houses Inspected under | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | Public Health Acts | .. | 51 |
| | | | | | Housing Acts | .. | 11 |
| Miscellaneous Housing Visits | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 164 |
| Infectious Diseases | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Disinfection | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Slaughterhouses | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 22 |
| Ice Cream Premises | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 37 |
| Food Preparing Premises | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 42 |
| Miscellaneous Food Visits | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| | | | | | | | <hr/> |
| | | | | | | | 1,552 |
| | | | | | | | <hr/> |

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

| <i>Premises</i> (1) | <i>Number on Register</i> (3) | NUMBER OF | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| | | <i>Inspections</i> (4) | <i>Written Notices</i> (5) | <i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (6) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 3 | 3 | | |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 10 | 17 | | |
| (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) | | | | |
| Total | 13 | 20 | | |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

Ice Cream

Seven premises are registered in this district under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the manufacture and/or sale of Ice Cream.

In two cases only is Ice Cream manufactured locally, in one case by the "heat treatment" method and in the other "cold mix."

47 per cent. of samples taken during the year were returned as grade one or two and 53 per cent. were returned as grade three or four.

It is satisfactory to note that all samples taken of the Ice Cream manufactured in this district passed the statutory test, and in other cases, where the samples failed, this information was passed to the Authority from whose area the product was obtained.

Frequent inspections were made of the premises used for the manufacture and sale and in only one case was it found necessary to request considerable works of repair and cleaning up to be carried out.

Food Premises.

During the Summer months a considerable number of houses on the main roads and in the villages near the sea cater for visitors and regular inspections were made of these premises, in addition to the regular catering establishments.

In four cases only was it found necessary to send a letter to the occupiers of these temporary catering establishments, drawing their attention to contraventions of section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Subsequent inspections revealed that the contraventions had been remedied.

Milk and Dairies Acts.

No action under the above-mentioned acts has been necessary owing to the fact that there are no "designated" milk bottling establishments in the district and neither are there any "nonproducer/retailers."

The sampling officers of the Devon County Council are responsible for sampling the milk supply to Schools and only nine out of 44 samples taken failed to pass the various tests to which they were subjected.

BUILDING LICENSING, 1950

The summary set out below gives details of building licences issued by this Council during the year :—

Housing Repairs and Additions

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Number of Licences granted | 15 |
| Total cost | £4,813 16s. 0d. |

New Dwellings by Private Enterprise

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|
| Number of Licences granted | 3 |
| Total cost | £4,700 0s. 0d. |

PLANS

Hereunder are details of plans submitted to the Council for consideration under the Building Byelaws and the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

Building Byelaws

| | |
|---|----|
| Number approved unconditionally | 28 |
| Number approved conditionally | 19 |
| Number disapproved | 2 |

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947

| | |
|---|----|
| Number approved unconditionally | 35 |
| Number approved conditionally | 39 |
| Number Refused | 11 |

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

L. J. DUNN,

Surveyor, Engineer and Sanitary Inspector.

